

My name is Ted Lapis, and I live in Sheridan, Wyoming. I'm representing myself. The Powder River Basin was opened to solve a problem. It was a work largely done by big oil companies who started the Powder River Basin and then sold out. I believe that the coal in Wyoming has markets other than being turned into heat and power. We know that there's more than a hundred billion barrels of oil underneath existing oil fields. It's called the residual oil zone. That oil is under the water. For a hundred years everybody in the oil business knew you stopped drilling when you hit the water, flow back and produce the oil. Now we know that there was a lot of oil underneath existing oil fields. It's been well-studied. Texas has been producing it since the '90s. The Big Horn Basin has a lot of oil underneath existing oil fields. You need carbon dioxide to produce that oil. The CO<sub>2</sub>, oil companies in 2012 were paying about \$40 per long ton of -- per ton of CO<sub>2</sub>. They were also offering pay \$25 a ton for manmade sources of CO<sub>2</sub>. They need a lot of it. It's reasonable to expect that CO<sub>2</sub> prices will go above \$50 per ton. That's more than the coal companies are getting for their product now, and that's a byproduct because it really is what you get after you turn the coal into power. It's not just that the oil wells are there and there's more oil underneath. The oil wells leak. The United States has done a bad job of finding out how many of those oil wells leak. In Alberta they've done a better job, and they found that 7 percent of their wells leak. However, the true number is higher, and it really at this point looks like it's a function of age. So I think there's other markets, and the biggest one is methane hydrates. We have between two and ten times the value of all the energy in oil, coal, and gas combined in methane hydrates, and that is produced in Alaska by a Conoco-Japanese consortium by pushing CO<sub>2</sub> in and capturing the methane on the way out.